

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:

Please amend the indicated paragraphs of the specification in accordance with the amendments indicated below.

Pages 1 and 2, amend the paragraph bridging same as follows:

For one of such loosening-preventing-means, those disclosed in Japanese Patent Laid-Open Publication No. Hei. 10-122223 is known, for example. A description of this disclosure follows, with reference to FIG. 22, FIG. 23A, and FIG. 23B. In a case of fixing a mounting member 53 to a female screw member 52, which has a female screw 52a formed, using a male screw member 51 such as a bolt having a threaded portion 51b, a pressing member 54 that is integrally coupled with a head portion 51a in the rotating direction, and a washer 55 that is integrally coupled with the mounting member 53 in the rotating direction, are interposed between the head portion 51a of the male screw member 51 and the mounting member 53.

Page 25, first full paragraph, amend as follows:

The lead-angle β of the inclined surface 6 is configured to be smaller than the lead-angle α of the male screw 1b or the female screw 2a. It is preferred that the lead-angle β of the spiral of the inclined surface 6 is configured to be 0.3 times the screw lead-angle α or more, and 0.7 times the screw lead-angle α or less.

Page 29, first full paragraph, amend as follows:

In this way, when the lead angle β of the inclined surface 6 is nearly the same value as the lead angle α of the screw, the tightening rotational torque can be made small, but on the other hand, the amount of tightening is decreased and a big tightening axial force cannot be achieved. On the contrary, when the lead angle β of the inclined surface 6 is nearly zero, the amount of tightening is increased and a big tightening axial force is achieved. On the other hand, the required tightening rotational torque is the same as the tightening rotational torque when only the screw is used, and a big tightening rotational torque is required. Therefore, as mentioned above, it is preferred that the lead-angle β of the spiral of the inclined surface 6 is configured to be 0.3 times the lead-angle α of the screw or more, and 0.7 times the lead-angle α or less.

Last page, amend the abstract as follows (a clean version is presented on the next page):

In a screw locking assembly a[[A]] pair of washers [[(4, 4)]] having inclined surfaces [[(6)]] are interposed between a screw member on a tightening side [[(1)]] and a member to be tightened [[(3)]], with the inclined surfaces [[(6)]] being mutually contacted. These inclined surfaces [[(6)]] circle around once in spiral form with a lead angle [[b]] β smaller than a lead angle [[a]] α of the screw, and both ends thereof are connected with a tier face [[(7)]] in the axial direction. By conducting an initial-tightening in a state with an interval of a preset angle maintained between the tier faces [[(7)]], and tightening and rotating the screw member on the tightening side [[(1)]] until the tier faces [[(7)]] come into contact with each other, a tightening force proportional to that angle is generated, and the tightening force is controlled surely with precision.